

RIZZO
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Meeting Minutes

Meeting Date: January 23, 2003 **Project Number:** 9124.04

Location: Southern NH Regional Planning Commission
Manchester, NH

Re: **Second Citizens Advisory Committee Meeting for the
Salem to Concord Bikeway Feasibility Study**

Attendees: See attached table

Meeting Summary

The Citizens Advisory Committee was formed to involve the communities and regional planning agencies in the Salem to Concord Bikeway Feasibility Study process. The objectives of the meeting were to bring the committee up to date on work recently completed for the project and discuss the up coming public meetings.

Meeting Minutes

Introduction

- Domenic Ciavarro opened the meeting with an introduction to the project and discussion on project purpose, trail users, study area and ROW issues.

Rail to Trail – Salem to Manchester

- Paul Smith gave an overview of the Salem to Manchester rail to trail alternative.
- Concerns with the Salem to Manchester rail to trail alternative by the committee include significant wetlands in Windham, conflicts with ATV riders in Windham, gas line under rail in Londonderry, ROW encroachments at Nutfield Court in Derry and at Office Park Drive in Londonderry.
- Linda Harvey is going to send Paul more photos of trail/roadway crossings.

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- Windham is concerned with current use of ATVs along the ROW.
- In Windham there are lots of possibilities for connecting the ROW to existing trails (Mitchell Pond and Spruce Pond areas).
- Can we provide an alternate trail for ATV's to use if there are to be prohibited from using the proposed pedestrian/bike trail?
- The encroachments at Nutfield Court and at the Office Park would make reuse of the ROW for rail difficult.
- At the Manchester Airport, the trail would leave the rail ROW and go on road. Coming from the south, riders would leave the rail at Harvey Road, turn right onto Perimeter Road, left onto S. Willow Street, left onto Perimeter Road and reenter the rail at Perimeter Road.
- The City of Manchester is not considering light rail from the city to the airport at this time.
- The last 1,000 feet of the trail in Manchester would be rail with trail.
- Rail with trail ends at Depot Street, riders would proceed on road along Depot Street to Canal Street to River Road to W. Webster Road.
- The Queen City Avenue crossing would require a pedestrian crossing signal or a bridge.
- The Queen City Trail Alliance possibly has some funding available for this project.

Rail to Trail – Manchester to Concord

- Domenic gave an overview of the Hooksett to Manchester rail to trail option.
- The issues with this portion of the trail include the connection to the west side of Concord, private ownership of segments of the ROW, the Soucook River and Suncook River crossings and the Allenstown channel crossing.
- The New Hampshire Division of Cultural Resources (NHDCR) is interested in the bridges and culverts within the rail ROW. They would like a copy of any plans we have.

I-93 Trail Option

- Bill Cass gave an overview of I-93 Bike Path discussed as part of the widening Project.
- Concerns with I-93 option include air quality, few connections to town roads, wetland impacts and truck lanes at Exits 2 and 3.
- NHDCR is also concerned that there may be impacts to resources along the I-93 trail.
- A trail along I-93 is not useful to the residents of Salem.

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On-Road Bike Lanes Option

- Domenic Ciavarro gave an overview of on-road options.
- Route 97 in Salem abuts a number of schools. It would need to be widened to accommodate a pedestrian/bike lane.
- How will we connect to Massachusetts? Is Route 38 a possibility?
- S. Policy Road in Salem is narrow, without shoulders and carries heavy truck volumes.
- N. Policy Road in Salem is narrow, curbed, without shoulders, carries heavy truck volumes and serves Canobie Lake Park.
- Londonderry is concerned with heavy truck traffic on Harvey Road and its affect on road bicycles.
- In Windham, N. Lowell Road is hilly and carries a lot of traffic.
- In Windham, S. Lowell Road is flat and has funding for a bike lane.
- Mammoth Road in Manchester is heavily traveled and has no width left for a bike lane.
- Bear Brook Park was voted best in country by a trail cyclist group four years in a row.

Public Meetings

- We need to keep the discussions relevant to communities attending meetings.
- We need to better define the purpose of the project
- Group breakout discussions are not supported by the committee. It is suggested that we use a presentation type format instead.
- Keep the goals of the individual towns in mind.

Notes prepared by NBD